

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

4 February 2019

Mr. Paul Galante  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 67433  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144

Reference: F-2019-00829

Dear Mr. Galante:

On 17 January 2019, the office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator received your 16 January 2019 correspondence requesting records under the Freedom of Information Act. This is a quick acknowledgement to advise you that we received your request for **records relating to or mentioning the KGB operation to acquire four banks in the United States (First National Bank of Fresno, Peninsula National Bank, Tahoe National Bank, Camino California Bank) from 1974 to 1975, either through purchasing the bank outright, or acquiring a controlling stock interest. You advised that the Moscow Narodny Bank in Singapore and Amos Dawe were used as cut-outs to purchase the banks. [You] do not want us to include any records already present in CREST, but want us to conduct a search for currently unprocessed records.**

Your request was assigned the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

Our officers will review and process your request in more detail and will only communicate to you if they should encounter any problems or if they cannot begin the search without additional information or clarification. We will search for CIA-originated records up to and including the date the Agency starts its search.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Fong".

Allison Fong  
Information and Privacy Coordinator